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#### PREPARATION OF STATE MACHINERY STATIONS FOR SPRING WORK

##### MOST STATE MACHINERY STATION

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Tractors of the Most State Machinery Station were operated until the end of the year. Then, at the beginning of January, all equipment was cleaned and inspected. Of the machines to be repaired, it was decided that the tractors and all other equipment necessary for tilling and planting would be repaired by the end of February; cutting bars and binders would be repaired by 15 May, and after them, the threshing equipment. Tractors not requiring repair will be used for removal of wood from forests, insofar as the weather and condition of roads permit.

The first machines to be repaired will be those with minor defects, the repair of which will require a short time or for which parts are on hand. Machines for which parts are not on hand will be divided into two groups: those of domestic manufacture (for which replacement parts may be readily obtained) and those of foreign manufacture. All machines should be in the proper condition in time for the spring work.

An additional duty of the State Machinery Stations is to help the small and medium farmers in the Unified Agricultural Cooperative to prepare the unified sowing plans (mainly with the help of their agronomists) and plans for year-round work by mechanized and team equipment. The conclusion of contracts is very important in preparation for the spring work. In Usti nad Labem Kraj all the State Machinery Stations will conclude contracts with Unified Agricultural Cooperatives primarily where there are joint sowings, and with individual farmers where Unified Agricultural Cooperatives have not yet been established. After contracts have been concluded, precise assignments will be

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worked out for each group (five tractors). Each group will work out a concrete plan for each tractor. This plan will be prepared for each season, that is, for spring, harvest time, and autumn work, after socialist contracts have been signed by groups and individuals. These obligations will be taken into consideration in the plan of all State Machinery Stations.

A plan for the education of Communist tractor operators in the okres political schools has been prepared by the deputy operational inspector for political training and cadre work. According to this plan, which was discussed by the okres committees of the Communist Party, 143 comrades will go through the okres political school in Usti nad Labem Kraj during the winter months. The factory organizations of the Party at the State Machinery Stations are lagging behind in the Year of Party Education. Therefore, two meetings a week have been planned for the educational program during the winter months at all stations (three times weekly in Chomutov). All Communist directors of State Machinery Stations will take a 4-week course which the Kraj Committee of the Party in Usti nad Labem is arranging for agricultural workers.

#### KAMENICE NAD LIPOU STATE MACHINERY STATION

Alois Novak, Director

After the completion of the autumn work at the State Machinery Station in Kamenice nad Lipou, machines were put into order and the factory organization made an evaluation of the tasks fulfilled. At the same time defects were pointed out, which will have to be eliminated. One of the serious defects was weak cooperation with farmers. Therefore, it was decided that the director of the station, the agronomist, and the leading tractor operator would help the farmers during the winter months to plan their field work for 1950. They will persuade the farmers of the usefulness of the Unified Agricultural Cooperative, and of the advantages of group sowing and consolidation. They will also give instruction concerning the correct preparation of the soil.

The director and the agronomist visited the obec of Bohdalin, where there is a Unified Agricultural Cooperative with 115 hectares of arable land. From the chairman of the local organization they obtained information concerning the class structure and all problems in the obec. The chairman of the Unified Agricultural Cooperative called a meeting of all members of the cooperative to discuss the importance of the contracts.

It was evident, from the discussion, that the farmers on the whole have a correct understanding of the importance of contracts with State Machinery Stations. Only a few objected that work performed by State Machinery Stations is expensive. These objections were refuted. It was explained to the farmers how much time they would save on work which the State Machinery Station would do for them better and in a far shorter time. They were also told that they would have more milk if they did not use cows as draft animals.

A contract was concluded between the Unified Agricultural Cooperative in Bohdalin and the State Machinery Station in Kamenice nad Lipou, whereby the station agreed to carry out all preparation of the soil, and to plant, reap, thresh, and plow. The various tasks will be performed not later than 3 days after notification by the Unified Agricultural Cooperative.

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On the other hand, the cooperative agreed that it will provide the necessary number of persons for carrying out the work, especially at harvest time, for setting up shocks and threshing. The cooperative will provide living quarters and meals for the tractor operators and will make sure that the machines are stored under cover.

According to the contract, the State Machinery Station will receive grain in return for cultivating the soil. This grain will be counted as a part of the quota of the Unified Agricultural Cooperatives, and the State Machinery Station will deliver it to the economic cooperative. For cultivating one hectare of soil with a yield of 15 quintals, the Machinery Station will receive 390 kilograms of grain from the Unified Agricultural Cooperative. If the yield is more than 15 quintals but less than 18.5 quintals, the remuneration will be increased by 10 percent. If the yield exceeds 18.5 quintals, the remuneration will be increased by 20 percent, and if it is more than 20 quintals, by 30 percent. On the other hand, if the yield is lower than 15 quintals, the remuneration will be lowered by 10-30 percent. On the basis of such a contract, the employees of the State Machinery Station will have an interest in high yields.

The State Machinery Station in Kamenice nad Lipou has good results, principally because the okres committee of the Party is devoting great attention to its work.

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